4. (Amended) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 5, wherein the benzene or its chlorine derivative is contained in an amount of from 0.1 to 30 wt% in the organic electrolyte.

5. (Amended) A method for producing an electric double layer capacitor, which comprises impregnating an element comprising positive and negative electrodes facing each other with a separator interposed between them, with an organic electrolyte capable of forming an electric double layer on the surface of the electrodes to store electric charge, and then applying a voltage to the element, wherein said positive and negative electrodes are made of electrodes containing a carbonaceous material having a specific surface area of from 100 to 3,000 m^2/g, and said organic electrolyte contains benzene or its chlorine derivative having at least one hydrogen atom of benzene substituted by a chlorine atom;

wherein after the application of a voltage to the element, the element is maintained under reduced pressure.

7. (Amended) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 5, wherein a voltage of at least 2.5V is applied to the element at a temperature of from 15 to 85°C.

8. (Amended) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 5, wherein the application of a voltage to the element comprises the following steps A and B:

Step A: a step of applying a voltage across the positive and negative electrodes by a DC power source, and

Step B: a step of applying a voltage by inversely connecting the positive and negative electrodes to the DC power source as compared with step A.

9. (Amended) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according

to Claim 5, wherein the organic electrolyte further comprises a salt comprising a cation represented by $R^1R^2R^3R^4N^+$ or $R^1R^2R^3R^4P^+$, and wherein each of R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 which are independent of one another, is a C_{1-6} alkyl group or a C_{6-10} aryl group, and an anion of BF_4^-, PF_6^-, $CF_3SO_3^-$, AsF_6^-, $N(SO_2CF_3)_2^-$ or ClO_4^-.

10. (Amended) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 5, wherein the organic electrolyte contains at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of ethylene carbonate, propylene carbonate, butylene carbonate, dimethyl carbonate, ethyl methyl carbonate, diethyl carbonate, sulfolane, a sulfolane derivative, acetonitrile and glutaronitrile.

11. (Amended) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 5, wherein after the application of a voltage to the element, the element is maintained under a reduced pressure of at most 160 Torr.--

Please add the following new claims:

--12. (New) A method for producing an electric double layer capacitor, which comprises impregnating an element comprising positive and negative electrodes facing each other with a separator interposed between them, with an organic electrolyte capable of forming an electric double layer on the surface of the electrodes to store electric charge, and then applying a voltage to the element, wherein said positive and negative electrodes are made of electrodes containing a carbonaceous material having a specific surface area of from 100 to 3,000 m^2/g, and said organic electrolyte contains benzene or its chlorine derivative having at least one hydrogen atom of benzene substituted by a chlorine atom;

wherein the voltage is applied to the element in a dry atmosphere in an open condition, and thereafter, the element is maintained under reduced pressure.

13. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 12, wherein said benzene or its chlorine derivative is at least one member selected from the group consisting of benzene, monochlorobenzene, dichlorobenzene and trichlorobenzene.

14. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 12, wherein the benzene or its chlorine derivative is contained in an amount of from 0.1 to 30 wt% in the organic electrolyte.

15. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 12, wherein a voltage of at least 2.5V is applied to the element at a temperature of from 15 to 85°C.

16. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 12, wherein the application of a voltage to the element comprises the following steps A and B:

Step A: a step of applying a voltage across the positive and negative electrodes by a DC power source, and

Step B: a step of applying a voltage by inversely connecting the positive and negative electrodes to the DC power source as compared with step A.

17. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 12, wherein the organic electrolyte further comprises a salt comprising a cation represented by $R^1R^2R^3R^4N^+$ or $R^1R^2R^3R^4P^+$, and wherein each of R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 which are independent of one another, is a $C_{1\text{-}6}$ alkyl group or a $C_{6\text{-}10}$ aryl group, and an anion of BF_4^-, PF_6^-, $CF_3SO_3^-$, AsF_6^-, $N(SO_2CF_3)_2^-$ or ClO_4^-.

18. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 12, wherein the organic electrolyte contains at least one solvent selected from the

group consisting of ethylene carbonate, propylene carbonate, butylene carbonate, dimethyl carbonate, ethyl methyl carbonate, diethyl carbonate, sulfolane, a sulfolane derivative, acetonitrile and glutaronitrile.

19. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 12, wherein after the application of a voltage to the element, the element is maintained under a reduced pressure of at most 160 Torr

20. (New) A method for producing an electric double layer capacitor, which comprises impregnating an element comprising positive and negative electrodes facing each other with a separator interposed between them, with an organic electrolyte capable of forming an electric double layer on the surface of the electrodes to store electric charge, and then applying a voltage to the element, wherein said positive and negative electrodes are made of electrodes containing a carbonaceous material having a specific surface area of from 100 to 3,000 m^2/g, and said organic electrolyte contains benzene or its chlorine derivative having at least one hydrogen atom of benzene substituted by a chlorine atom;

wherein after the application of a voltage to the element, the element is maintained under a reduced pressure of at most 160 Torr.

21. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 20, wherein said benzene or its chlorine derivative is at least one member selected from the group consisting of benzene, monochlorobenzene, dichlorobenzene and trichlorobenzene.

22. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 20, wherein the voltage is applied to the element in a dry atmosphere in an open condition.

23. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to

Claim 20, wherein the benzene or its chlorine derivative is contained in an amount of from 0.1 to 30 wt% in the organic electrolyte.

24. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 20 wherein a voltage of at least 2.5V is applied to the element at a temperature of from 15 to 85°C.

25. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 20 wherein the application of a voltage to the element comprises the following steps A and B:

Step A: a step of applying a voltage across the positive and negative electrodes by a DC power source, and

Step B: a step of applying a voltage by inversely connecting the positive and negative electrodes to the DC power source as compared with step A.

26. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 20 wherein the organic electrolyte further comprises a salt comprising a cation represented by $R^1R^2R^3R^4N^+$ or $R^1R^2R^3R^4P^+$, and wherein each of R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 which are independent of one another, is a C_{1-6} alkyl group or a C_{6-10} aryl group, and an anion of BF_4^-, PF_6^-, $CF_3SO_3^-$, AsF_6^-, $N(SO_2CF_3)_2^-$ or ClO_4^-.

27. (New) The method for producing an electric double layer capacitor according to Claim 20 wherein the organic electrolyte contains at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of ethylene carbonate, propylene carbonate, butylene carbonate, dimethyl carbonate, ethyl methyl carbonate, diethyl carbonate, sulfolane, a sulfolane derivative, acetonitrile and glutaronitrile.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claim 5 has been amended to include the limitations of Claim 1, from which it formerly depended. Support is found in Claims 1 and 5 as originally filed.

Claims 1 and 6 have been canceled in view of the amendment to Claim 5.

Claims 2-4 and 7-11 have been amended to depend from Claim 5. Support is found in the claims as originally filed.

Claim 9 has been amended to remove the awkward language and to recite proper antecedent basis, as suggested by the Examiner. Support is found in the claim as originally filed.

New Claims 12-27 have been added.

Claim 12 finds support at Claims 1 and 6 as originally filed. Claims 13-19 depend from new Claim 12 and find support at Claims 2, 4 and 7-11 as originally filed.

Claim 20 finds support at Claims 1 and 11 as originally filed. Claims 21-27 depend from new Claim 20 and find support at 2-4 and 7-10 as originally filed.

No new matter is believed to be added by entry of the amendments. Upon entry of the amendments, Claims 2-5 and 7- 27 will be active. Entry and favorable consideration are respectfully requested.

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 5, 6 and 11, for considering all the Information Disclosure Statements submitted to date, and for acknowledging Applicants' claim to foreign priority.

Applicants have amended the claims in accordance with what was indicated as allowable, and this case is now believed to be in immediate condition for allowance.